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**I** Appoint Dorman Newman, Citizen and Stationer of London, to Print my Depositions concerning the Plot, and none else.

April 30.  
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Edmund Everard.

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THE  
DEPOSITIONS  
AND  
EXAMINATIONS  
OF

Mr. Edmund Everard

(Who was Four years close Prisoner in the TOWER  
of LONDON)

Concerning the

Horrid Popish Plot

AGAINST

The LIFE of His SACRED MAJESTY,  
the GOVERNMENT, and the Protestant Religion.

With the Names of several persons in England, Ireland,  
France, and elsewhere, concerned in the Conspiracy.

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Part whereof was five years since made known to persons herein  
specified; and again tendered to the Honourable Committee of  
Lords sitting in Parliament at Westminster, upon Oath; and now  
tendered to the Honourable House of Commons.

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LONDON:

Printed for Dorman Newman at the Kings Arms in the Poultry.  
M DC LXXIX.

THE  
DEPOSITIONS  
AND  
EXAMINATIONS  
OF  
MR. EDMUND TAYLOR  
(Who was born near Newgate in the County  
of York)  
Copied from the

old copy

The PINE of HIS SACRED MASTY  
the CORNISH TIDE, being the first  
With the Name of Taylor in England before  
There being nothing concerning him in the Conqueror.

But there were few such poor houses in  
London as the old Cornhill where he dwelt ; having  
no other place to go to than the church of St. Paul's  
where he was admitted to be a member of the  
congregation.

He was a man of great worth and  
ability, and had a good name throughout  
the city, and was well known to all the  
best people.

*This Information of the Plot was five years since given by me to persons herein specified, but was suppressed; and was again now of late tendered a-new to the Committee of the Lords sitting in Parliament at Westminster, upon Oath, the 21st of December, 1678. And is now tender'd by me to the Commons.*

**W**HILE I was employed as Agent at the French Court for the English Militia's Concerns, one of the Officers brought me at Paris to the acquaintance of my Lady Anne Gourdon, Sister to the now Marquess of Huntley in Scotland. She after about a years frequentation, communicated unto me certain important secrets concerning a Popish Plot against England.

She's a Lady of vast correspondence with the Popish Clergy and Nobility almost through all Europe, living ordinarily as a free person in Nunneries, and was then in a Convent at Paris.

At a time I surprized her with two of the chief Scotch Seminarians of Paris, in a deep and dark discourse of the English Affairs; and as soon as my Lady made them understand that I was one of her private Friends, and Catholickly affected ( it being fit she should imagine this ) they begun to speak plain enough, to let me perceive that their discourse tended to some sudden design for the subversion of the English Government and Governor, and the setting up of Popery here in England.

But on some day of the Month of November, 1673, I enquired of my Lady what those mysterious discourses meant she had with the Scotch Priest? She after long importunities and protestations, revealed unto me that which follows.

I. That there was now a grand Design on foot in *England*, for the settling of the Catholick Faith there publickly.

II. That there was also a project against the Parliament that made such a stir (as she spoke) and was their obstacle, either totally to dissolve it, or to sow some divisions betwixt the King and It ; where his Majesty also should find potent Adversaries of the Romish Nobility, who would cut out work for him.

III. That there was a very considerable party in *England*, who laboured to make the Duke of *Tork* King, but that the *Scots* indeed were more for the Duke of *Monmouth* being such, if means could be made to bring him over to it, wherein she conceived I might be an useful Instrument, having been employed under him. But said I, What do they mean to do with the King himself ? She answered,

I. That the now King of *England* would be made away, and dispatcht after his Father, so that he would not be shortly in a case to annoy any body.

Then I askt her by what means they thought to bring such matters about ; and who were the leading-men in the contrivance, and who the Under-agents to carry it on ? She said, That all that was too much for me to know at the first time ; besides, that it was then too late at night ; but that at my return within three days (for avoiding of suspicion) I should be fully satisfied. But I insisted, That these were grand affairs whereof she spoke, for which consequently she needed to have more than common grounds. She replied, that I ought not to doubt but that she had the best correspondency in *England*, *Scotland*, and *France*, as having on the one part Madam de *Gourdon* her Aunt, one of the chief Ladies with the Dutchess of *Orleance*, which was taken to be of the fittest for Intelligence and Intrigues at the *French* Court; and on the other side, that she received Letters almost every week from the eminentest Church-men on this and that side of the sea, as also from some of the greatest Nobility of *England* and *Scotland*, namely, from her Brother the Marques of *Huntley*, my Lord *Oxenford* of *Scotland*, Mr. *Maitland* (somewhat concerned, as she said,

said, in the Secretarship of Ministry of State of Scotland.) and from the Earl of Rochester Chancellor there; but she afterwards run out into some of his Love-commerce with her; so that I leave to others to infer from the premises to which, either to Love or the Plot-part, or all of this his Letter-Correspondency must be referred. And to confirm further the credit I must yeild to her words, she drew forth a Bag full of Letters, a matter of a Bushel full, and shewed some more in a Cabinet, laying, Are these all about trifles, think you? She further produced a picture in mignature of the said Chancellor, and went about to read one of his Letters (of a large and ill-shaped Character methought), but withheld, referring me till the fore-mentioned three days term. I infine, asked how she could avoid suspition, if so many Letters were directed to her in her own name? She told me she had taken a good care for that, because her Correspondents writ to her under several names by which they called her, and part of her Letters were directed to Mr. Conne a Scotch-man, living at Paris as Agent for the Pope, others were addressed to Mr. Dallison her Scotch Physician there, some to Father Joseph, Prior of the English Benedictines at Paris, who was her Confessor.

II. Now in the interval, having before been recommended by Dr. Brien, Dr. Molony Priests, and others, to Colonel Richard Talbot, and to his Brother Peter (the pretended Archbishop of Dublin) for a person that carried on business after the formalities of the Court of France, and the Colonel himself having made some tryal of me; he on a time desired me to be assistant to his Brother the Bishop, not long since come out of England: The Bishop desired I should go and complement on his behalf, the Marshal Bellefond (Grand Steward to the King of France), and know when he might be introduced by him to the Kings Audience about the busness whereof he treated with the Marshal himself while he was in England as Ambassador (in or about the year 1670.)

The Marshal being then at Court, kept at Versaile, the Bishop would have one Mr. Moore, a Priest and Philosophy-Professor at Paris, to accompany us thither on the next day, having lain that night at Versaile; and the Bishop striving to make us all merry on the good Catholick Causes success, I took that opportunity to  
en-

enquire, whether he thought it not fit to communicate unto me the Heads and Grounds of this affair wherein he was pleased to make me his Speaker and Introducer at Court, lest, said I, any occasion might happen for me to second it. The business that I am to represent to the King of France is this:

*Articles a-  
gainst the  
Talbots.*

I. It is a business, said he, which mightily concerns the welfare of the Catholicks in *England*, and of those in *Ireland* especially.

II. That he was to propose ways to the King of *France*, whereby to relieve them in their present extremities and persecutions, and for to undertake their protection ; and some of his ways was to Arm some *Irish*, and to secure some Sea-Port Town in *Ireland* for the *French*.

III. He said that he had a special good Warrant and Commission for this his Negotiation from some of the greatest persons in *England*.

IV. That he was to solicit his Christian Majesty for a Pension, or the Arrears payable to himself. The next morning I went to the Kings Rising to acquaint the Marshal *Bellefond*, that the Archbishop *Talbot* was in Town to wait on His Majesty and Him; he wish't me to introduce him : The Marshal knew him at first sight, and imbraced him, and acquainted the King with his coming ; His Majesty receiving him with great civility, led him into a private Room, where Mr. *Moore* and I following them, he beck'ned to Mr. *Moore* that had the paper, to advance : But I from the doorward saw the Bishop present a Letter to the King, and other papers, which I think were sealed. I over-heard he spoke in *Italian* at first entrance, their Conference lasted about half an hour ; and though that King is somewhat of a Grave, and somewhat Morose temper, yet he often smiled, as at Propositions that pleased him.

But at our coming out from Court, I enquired of the Bishop of the good success of his Negotiation, which I told him seemed to be of other or more matters then he acquainted me with. No, said he, 'tis but of the same matter I spoke to you of last night ; where-

whereof he said, I should know more, seeing he must come to Court again and again about it, though the King (continued he) promised all possible satisfaction and hopes of a good issue. So, not to increase suspicion by further inquiries, I urged him no more, but departed from him for that time to *Paris*. Yet note, that Mr. Moore did also generally touch unto me the Matters of the aforesaid Articles and Plot, having heard it from the said Bishop, *Peter Talbot*, and his papers.

And further observe, That one Mr. *Conne* a Scotch-man (who was formerly the Popes Nuncio, and then his Agent at *Paris*) had almost every day private Conferences with both the *Talbots*, and went betwixt them, their Nuncio, then being at *Paris*; and that the *Talbots* and this *Conne* came often to my Lady *Anne Huntleys*, though my Lady had also another pretext to see *Conne*. The very same night I did communicate all that past in this *Peter Talbot's* Negotiation to Sir *Robert Welsb*, as I had done before that other Plot of Lady *Huntleys*, both fearing lest this grand secret might dye with me, I having many Enemies daily threatening me then at *Paris*; and for that this Sir *Robert* was a man that still made much profession of his Actings, Sufferings, and Loyalty for the King of *England*, in such former discoveries; but Sir *Robert's* truer Character I found out too late.

However Sir *Robert* most unfaithfully forthwith discovered all to Colonel *Talbot*, both that of my Lady *Huntleys*, and the *Talbots* business; and that I intended speedily to go for *England* to accuse both him and his brother *Peter*; the Colonel feigning to keep his bed, desires to speak with me at his own Lodging. The Circumstances of the message with the Premisses weighed, I took one or two along with me to his very Chamber door on another pretext; he presently desired to know when I intended for *England*, and when I had seen Sir *Robert Welsb*. But by this much, forthwith perceiving I was betrayed; I pretended another occasion of that voyage; for which besides I seemed not to be very earnest, if either in *Paris*, or with the now Dutchess of *York* (then at *Paris*) he would procure me some fit employmēt of Secretary, or Usher. And at first he went about to perswade me from com-

ing over into *England* at all. Then began to threaten me manfully ; and if he heard I did otherwise than I said, in stealing away for *England* on such occasions against them and the Catholicks, they would infallibly procure I should be forthwith committed to the *Tower of London* or the *Gatetowne*, at my arrival ; which accordingly happened according to his spightful prophesse, about seven days after I arrived at *London*.

That seeing the effect of his threatnings fall out so punctually, and not doubting thetupon, but that he, with Sir *Robert Welsb*, and Correspondents here, were the secret Contrivers of my four years close imprisonment in the *Tower* ( though a very remote surprise was put in by them for pretext ) therefore I said I was afraid to charge them much, and but warily, whilst I was in the *Tower*, fearing to fare the worse by the means of any secret friend of theirs.

## E V I D E N C E S.

**T**H E aforesaid Sir *Robert Welsb* his Evidence, now in *London*, may first confirm the truth of this my Information ; for he being now in *London*, can witness that I disclosed to him all the said Treasons about five years since, in or about the Month of *November 1673* ; so that it cannot be imagined that this my Information is some new matter fitted for the times against *Papists* ; nor that it is some odious new-coined slander, according to the humour and device of some dissenting parties ( as *Papists* cavil ), seeing that by four or five witnesses hereafter mentioned, who are none of my Friends, it undeniably appears that I discovered this said Plot many years before these times were thought of ; nay, and in such a time when I never had seen *England*, or knew any person there, either by Letters or otherwise ( except such Officers of the Army that were then in *France* ).

I. I did not know but that Sir *Robert Welsb* or some other had hinted these matters to some Minister of State.

II. I began to discover some of these matters to Sir *John Rob-*

*Robinson* at the beginning of my imprisonment ; but whether it was through any defect of my delivery , or that he took such Relations for a devised starting from the only point he would have me confess against the Duke of *Monmouth*, against whom I never conceived the least harm ; but whatever it was for, Sir *John* made light of my Narration concerning the Lady *Huntley* and the said *Talbots* business, which I am sure I began to relate to him, at the least in substance; but how far he suffered me to proceed, I cannot now well remember, both for that there's above four years since, and for the hard usages wherewith he still troubled my mind (whereof neither His Majesty nor the Duke of *Monmouth* knew their continuance so long ) as my Lord of *Northampton* told me.

III. And since my enlargement at the very beginning of this Parliament, I yet went to the *Tower* to desire Sir *John* to second me for the discovering of the said matters ; but he at my first speaking rejected my proposal, referring me to the Secretaries. And truly I would as heartily have applied myself to the Secretaries, as to any, but that I feared, lest of some errors which might be found in my carrying on this business, they would be more likely to charge me therewith, as parties for the King and Laws, than any other chief Parliament-members, who would be more fit to intercede for me, and more at leisure to sue out a pardon for me, if need were.

IV. In fine, Col. *Justin McCarthy*, being then at *Paris* when these matters were vented out of Sir *Robert*, of my accusing the Lady *Huntley* and the *Talbots*, he, I say, with some of his Officers, can testifie that such a Report came out then, some years since, if they would speak truth.

V. Nay, and one Capt. *Barret*, with several other Officers that were beyond seas, told me about a fortnight ago, that the report went amongst the *Irish*, That the *Talbots* were committed upon my Information , though I never spoke of them these four years till now ; but that by a fore-boding guilt they knew perfectly, and heard I had grounds enough wherewith to accuse them; so that the *Irish* Catholicks here did threaten me, alledging me to be an abettor of Mr. *Oate's* Informations  
against

against them, which he neither needs, nor did I ever see him but in publike, before I gave in this information ; nor *Bedlow*. Besides, that it appears I made the discovery of the Plot, and the aforesaid matters, before they, had I not had some of the *Trojan Prophetesses* ill fortune ; yet in time I hope I shall be able to recollect more of the particulars of the matters and persons herein mentioned.

**EDMUND EVERARD.**

*Jurat. coram me*  
4 April 1679.

**WILLIAM WALLER:**

*The Information of Mr. EDMOND EVERARD, taken upon OATH before Sir WILLIAM WALLER, one of His Majesties Justices of the Peace for the County of Middlesex, and City and Liberties of Westminster, on this Fourth of APRIL 1679.*



THE true Contrivers of my Imprisonment were the *Talbots* and *Lady Huntley*, who for discovering of their Plotings, threatned me in expref words, *That if ever I came over into England, on that Design, I would be secured in the Tower or Gate-House; or if I remained in France, they would get me laid fast enough:* They put these Threatnings into Execution, for though both they and I were seemingly reconciled, yet they made such a Search for me in *Paris*, that I was fain to change Lodgings very often into remote and by-places; and when I was on my Journey for *England*, one or two of my own servants, whom I dismift at *Paris*, seeing me take Coach privately, carried them word of it, and for some pretence or other they sent one Mr. *Perrig*, who was their acquaintance and *Huntley's* chief friend, in post to apprehend me; whereof Sir *Edward Hungerford*, of this Honourable House, can testifie from a Friend of his, who heard the fame from *Perrig's* mouth (that is now dead.) And it's to be remark'd, that he could not pursue or apprehend a stranger in *France*, but in a concern against the King of that Countrey; who rather gives protection to strangers that are pursued on any other Account. Before the *Talbots* fell out with me, and when I first determined in my own mind to come over privately into *England*, I inquired of one of the *Talbot's* servants (who was my Countryman) where one might take

cheap and friendly Lodgings in *London*, till one were in fit Equipage ( I having never been in *England* before ) he directed me to one *Kenedy's House at the Pall Mall*, or to another Countreyman's House of his in *St. Martin's Lane*, at the Sign of the *Patrick*; the first night and hour I came to that House, I told them my Name and Employment from the Duke of *Monmouth*, and that it was fit I should go and wait on him immediately, lest he shoulde take ~~ill~~; and desired my Landlord to send for some Link-boy that knew his Grace's House, where I repaired forthwith; but not finding his Grace at home, I acquainted some of the servants of my Arrival, to通知 to his Grace; The next day I came, he also was abroad earlier than ordinary, on some Riding or Recreation Account: But unto Gentlemen of his Chamber, Mr. *Champins* and *St. Giles*, I told I would gladly come to kiss his Grace's hand, and confer about Busines, in whatever company he were in, so that Captain *Watsu* and Mr. *Vernon* were not present, who were my Enemies on private Accounts, and would move his Grace doubtless against me, not to grant me my Request, which partly was some Arrears or an Employment.

The next day I being ill, was let blood and kept my Chamber a day or two: I think the Sunday morning I went to visit Lieutenant Collonel *Trelany*, who meeting accidentally a day or two before, I came to re-visit on this Sunday morning, who at my first sight found more than ordinarily disturbed, and courteously desired to know my Lodgings, and whether I had seen the Duke? I told him of the sorry Dwelling I had taken up for a little time, and that I would gladly see his Grace without the side enemies and with him! He desired me to accompany him to *Whitehall Chappel*, where I might at the least be seen of his Grace. ( Thither we went ) But the Collonel desiring me to stay about the Chappel Door, thronged in with great haste, without coming out to me afterwards: In the mean time hearing of Organs and Children singing in Surplusesses, as I had seen and heard in the *French Kings Chappel*, where I perceived some of the *English Nobility* come as freely as here; I did not know what to think, whether I had not been too forward in speaking of any Discoveries against that Religion which might be perhaps of late changed

changed in *England*: for that I had not heard or seen such things in the *French Church* at *Charenton*, where I only took my *Idea of Protestantism*; but this erroneous state of things (that I now know to be indifferent) did however make me pause in my *Discoveries*; but whilst in these thoughts, Captain *Watson* stept out of the *Chappel*, who looking on me a-squint, went down the *Privy Stairs* in one end, and the other *Watson* his Nephew, speaking a word or two to me more coldly than ordinarily, went out through the *Guard Hall* to the other *Stairs*; and presently follows in the King's company the Duke of *Monmouth*; who eying me only past by; at all which *passages* of indifference from former friends I was astonish'd. But I was in *Scarlet Breeches* and *Stockings*, so that I could be easily discerned and dogg'd to my *Lodgings*, where I went presently from *Chappel*.

Within two days after two men brought a *Paper* to my said *Lodging*, signed by the *Secretary*, whereupon he said he must needs speak with me: I inquired for what? but they could not or would not tell me; but it seems by their *expressions* to my *Landlord*, they were with him the day before to inquire for me: and they could tell that I had been last Sunday at Morning Prayers at *Whiteball*, and there also seen the same Night amongst others: After break-fasting peaceably, I went with them to *Whiteball*, not thinking this any Commitment Business. I told my *Landlord* I thought I would be back within an hour. The *Secretary* at my arrival, inquiring of my Name, told me he would go and speak with the *King* about me; which I know not whether he did so, or no! but returning soon after, spake not one word to me, but going into his Clerk, he sent out the same *Messengers*, who called me into the *Stone Gallery*; who said they had *Orders* to carry me to the *Tower*, but for what they could not tell me.

Sir *John Robinson* after my Arrival entertained me to Dinner, which continued in the company of his Lady and Solicitor; in a free and cheerful manner in Discourse of the French Customs, and of his Son, whom I knew at *Paris*.  
After  
London

After Dinner, and having had a Nap with his Chaplain, who came in, Sir John inquired of me, Whether I were not a *Roman Catholique*? I told them I had been such, but not one of late; and whether I was in Orders? I told them never, inquiring whether I knew for what I was committed? I told them no, no. No more do I, said Sir John, but in the general; afterwards he sent for one Captain Cresset, the then Gentleman Gaoler, he read unto me a Paper, he called his Warrant, which being but in general words, and giving me no Copy of it, made no such impression upon me, as now to remember the Contents; for I thought it was but some *Tower* formality, wherewith others were served as well as I; for Sir John never explained nor insisted upon it, no more did I, but followed Captain Cresset to my appointed Lodging; which was convenient enough, as also the Diet: so that at the beginning I being hot lock'd up neither day nor night, for a Month or thereabouts, and giving my self to reading an *English Chronicle* that belonged to my Landlord, I unconcernedly expected a speedy enlargement, after the Duke of Monmouth should come to hear of my Imprisonment; unto whom I desired Sir John to give notice of it; but I had no return.

After some Months, Sir John sent for me, and said he had Order to examine me; he inquired, What and whom I verily thought were the Causes of my Imprisonment? I told him that the Lady Anne Gourdon, alias Huntley, with Peter Talbot, Titular Bishop of Dublin, were assuredly the Causes of it, and might well contrive by other Instruments some false Accusation against me, for to weaken the testimony I was to give against them of their plotting against *England*: for that the said Lady had informed me of a Design the *English Catholiques* had against the King's Person, his Government, and Religion; and that she had correspondency with her Brother the Marquis of Huntley, my Lord of Rotbes, my Lord of Oxenford of Scotland, and other Catholiques and Priests, this side and beyond Seas; That the said Peter Talbot, before I brought him to the French King's presence, told me, That he was to treat with that King from some very great Person or Persons in *England*, for to raise men in *Ireland* for the French King, and that I had declared these things in *France* to one Sir Robert Welsh, who desired

desired me to acquaint the Duke of *Ormond* therewith. So Sir *John* being in haste to go to *Whitehall*, took these Heads in his *Table-book*, and said he would acquaint them above with it; but bid me not to mention the Duke of *Ormond* at all, for he was a good man. I bring him in onely by occasion, said I. Next day Sir *John* sent for me, and desiring to know what other things I could say, I began to particularize the forementioned relations of the *Plot*; but he broke me off of that, saying, *That these were but trifles, and that we cared not in England what Priests and Women beyond Seas, could devise; and that he took such Stories from me but as starting-boles from the only point he had to urge against me.* *That unless I would confess other matters against the Duke of Monmouth, he would rack me next day, and afterwards hang me.* I said, *He might do what he pleased, but that I neither knew or could confess any such Design:* And so I was sent back to my *Lodging*, but my forwardness to speak ever afterwards of any *Plot* against *England* was well abated, by this Storm. I desired my *Keepers Wife* and *Child*, here present to pray for me, for that I was to be rack'd the next day. I asked my *Keeper*, *What a Rack was? An Instrument, said he, to stretch the Body and Limbs out of all joynts, sometimes full of Needles; and that it was called the Daughter of some Duke. I do not now remember which.* But this Family being weak persons, were themselves frightned at this sad and terrible threatnings; alledging, *That none was ever carried to be executed out of their house.*

Sometime afterwards I was sent for to be examined, to *Whiteball*, before the Secretary, my Lord of *Bath*, of *Newport*, and some others, I never saw before: They inquired, Whether I had been employed under the Duke of *Monmouth*? And whether I knew some other persons, I do not now remember my self? with such other Questions; out of which I could not yet know certainly the Cause of my Commitment; for no body appeared against me, as I think, at that time, one only at the second time: So they in a general manner urged me still to confess, to confess, what evil Design I had in coming to *England*: I said still, *I had none, nor could I confess any:* And so was sent back to the *Tower*. Some Weeks or Months afterward I was sent for to *Whiteball* again, where one *Dallison*, who was formerly in *France* entertained by me

for writing, appeared. He there said, *That I threatned some persons here in England, and that he thought that it was the Duke of Monmouth, because of non-payment of Arrears.* I told him, *That that was a bad inference, that because I threatned some body, it must be therefore the Duke of Monmouth, who had never any ground so to do; for that he had signed an Order for payment of me; and spoke to Captain Watson and Doctor Goafe for it: Though I never was yet paid.*

But the pretext or ground from which they took the occasion of this flanderous Allogisme, was from the matters of some private quarrels, which one Mr. *Hampton* and the Lady *Anne Gourdon* would have me vindicate against some of their Rivals; which I complimentally was still wont to promise them I would do, the better to insinuate my self into their secrets, concerning the *Plot* and other matters.

The Lady *Gourdon* would have the Earl of *Rothes* his Lady to be made away, she being a *Presbyterian*, begot (as she said) a great obstacle to the *Roman Catholick Religion's* progress in *Scotland*, and her own Rival, &c.

Mrs. *Wingfield*, alias *Hampton*, a Benchers Wife of the *Temple*, then also in *Paris*, went also about to all *English Gentlemen* there to avenge her quarrels against her Husband, who as they say (not without some good cause) has cast her off! She applied her self to me, who not approving of those violent means, obtained for her a Letter of Recommendation for Justice to be done to her, from the *French King* to the *King of England*; signed by Secretary *Pompone*, directed to Secretary *Arlington* in *England*: This was in 73, but she not finding any good by this Letter, she went on to propose to me her old ways; so seeing her incorrigible, fearing she would fall into worse hands, and hoping to get back the money I had lent to her and laid out for her; I kept in with her till she could get money to pay me: but finding no hopes of either the one or the other, I bid this *Dallison* my Man, to take her in hand, to pretend to close to her Designs, till I could get my money. I directed him to her *Lodgings*, but he told me that Sir *Robert Welsh* and himself knew her well enough: And that he would get me one *Johnson* a Student in

*Physick,*

*Phyfick*, who would act his part in the Comedy better than any. I told them I would share with them both of what was due to me by this Woman, and what besides they could get from her: She proffered to give some Hundreds of Pounds, then in the hands of Monsieur *de Basti* in *London*, and her Daughter besides in Marriage, to any that would kill her Husband by the Sword, *Poyson*, &c. But finding she could not perform the payment of a far less sum due to me, and that to receive into my company persons of so wicked principles in Religion and Moralities, was scandalous; I cast them all off in *Paris*. She some Weeks before came over unknown to me into *England*, but the next day after my Arrival here, I met her accidentally; and she brought me to her Lodging; having now cast of *Dallison*. Also he there in *Paris* met with the *Talbots* every night, and with Sir *Robert Welsb*; amongst them it was contrived that *Dallison* should come over into *England*, and turn these petit matters wherein I seemed to comply with these Ladies, as if I intended them against the Duke of *Monmouth*, for not payment of Arrears, &c. and by this means they thought to blast my Discovery of the *Plot* against them, when I came into *England*; and that I would be certainly secured when I arrived there: and they had the assurance to threaten me there-with to my face. Their threats came punctually to pass, for I was secured according to their Contrivance within a few days after I was in *London*.

Now when Sir *John* and the *Secretary* did so oft press me, What might give grounds to this Slander of some Design against the Duke of *Monmouth*, I have related these matters abovesaid, unto them concerning these Womens Proposals, which I conceived to be the only ground and pretext of that Slander, they made me sign it, I think; which taking but for a formality of no great importance, I did do; and though I did but out of a complemental policy hearken to these Womens designs, I could not be at quiet there at the *Tower* with Sir *John* and others, till I had said, That I had a real intention to serve these Women in the premisses, though Mr. *Hawkins* the *Tower Chaplain*, and Mr. *Robinson* the *Tower Gentleman Taylor*, may witness that I told them and others, That I dallied with these Ladies only. But what-ever Sir *John* or the Secre-

Secretary can make of this or any other lie, the Popish plotters sent into their hands, to slander my Evidence, cannot be material to the purpose, and I will be ready to answer it. And though Sir John's ill usage and threats of Racking of me, and hearing that he was wont to give an account of me to the Duke of York (the Talbot's Master) though I say, these things did discourage me to speak further of the Plot whilst I was in the Tower, either to Sir John or the Secretary, yet after I had been abroad a while, during the last Parliaments Sitting, I went to him to the Tower, intreating him to second me in the discovering of the said Matters aforesaid, for the good of the Government; John Bagot his Man I think was in hearing; but he with a Check rejected me: which discouraged me so, as almost never to speak any more of the Matter. Till a Lord of the Parliament, to whom I discovered the whole, by the means of a Friend, had received me again to make the Discovery, as I have done on the Twenty fourth of December last before the Committee of Lords upon Oath, Three Months ago before this Information I now do give into the Commons.

*Jurat.*

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**F I N I S.**

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Yorke 28. 142.

D<sup>o</sup> abbouit Roper P<sup>r</sup>es to Prince his T<sup>o</sup> R<sup>av</sup>  
of Edmund Cawmyn: And sh<sup>t</sup> to ope<sup>r</sup> Belon  
belone to Prince t<sup>e</sup> time.

## WILLIAM SCROPE